

<b>Policy Name</b>	<b>Student Registration Policy</b>		<b>Number</b>	<b>P5</b>
<b>Date Approved by Council</b>	2013/ 07/19	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Sept 23, 2014</b>	
<b>Revision approved by Council</b>	2014/09/30			
<p>1. All midwifery students in Alberta must be registered with the College of Midwives of Alberta in order to undertake any part of their clinical experience in the province. Student membership entitles the person to perform the authorized practices comprising the clinical practice of midwifery under the supervision of a qualified supervisor.</p> <p>2. To qualify as a student a person must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enrolled in a midwifery undergraduate program or a midwifery bridging program approved by the Health Disciplines Board,</li> <li>enrolled in a midwifery undergraduate program or a midwifery bridging program that has been accepted for assessment for approval or</li> <li>enrolled in a midwifery education program for indigenous people in the Canadian North. This will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the College.</li> </ol> <p>All students enrolled in midwifery education programs that are not recognized by the HDB, or in the process of recognition, are not eligible for student membership with the College.</p> <p>3. To register as a student a person must provide the College with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirmation of registration in an education or bridging program approved by the Health Disciplines Board;</li> <li>A completed registration form: and</li> <li>The applicable fees.</li> </ol> <p>4. As part of informed choice discussions, the College expects that the client's permission is obtained to allow for any student involvement.</p> <p>5. Midwifery students must always practise under the supervision of a regulated health care provider (known as preceptors) approved by their education program. A clinical preceptor in Alberta must be a general registrant in good standing with their regulatory body and include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Midwife General registrant of the CMA who meets the qualifications to supervise as set out in the CMA Registrant's Handbook;</li> <li>Registered Nurse licensed by the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta; or</li> <li>Physician licensed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.</li> </ol> <p>Outside of Alberta, the approval of preceptors must adhere to the requirements of the students' midwifery education program.</p>				

The preceptor is fully responsible for all clinical care provided by the student while under their supervision. In their clinical education it is expected that students will move through an appropriate series of steps in achieving clinical competence. These steps should progress through: observation only, then assistance, then performance under direct supervision, then performance under indirect supervision with the supervisor on the premises and in a position to assist if necessary. It is expected that the program will require a clinical preceptor to be present at all births attended by students throughout the program and that, in particular, the second and third stages of labour will require direct supervision throughout the program, even when senior students are being given primary responsibility for conducting deliveries and managing care. The Preceptor is responsible for co-signing all entries made by the student into the medical record.

6. A midwife who is designated as a clinical preceptor for an approved education program may have the senior midwifery student (clerkship 1<sup>i</sup> or equivalent) under her supervision act in the role of second midwife. Approval to have a senior student act in this role for a midwife who is not one of the student's designated preceptors must be obtained from the midwifery education program in which she is enrolled.

The CMA recognizes the increased level of knowledge, skill and judgment acquired by senior level students and therefore allows students to participate as follows, at the discretion of the supervising midwife:

- a) Midwifery students enrolled in *Clerkship 1<sup>ii</sup>* may provide care in the role of one of the two midwives at a **hospital** birth, provided that a supervising midwife is **on site** supervising and taking full responsibility for clinical care throughout the assessment and duration of labour, birth and immediate postpartum. The Midwifery Student may provide care in the capacity of either primary or second midwife.
  - b) Midwifery students enrolled in *Clerkship 2<sup>iii</sup>* may provide care in the role of one of the two midwives at a **hospital or out-of-hospital** birth, provided that a supervising midwife is **on site** supervising and taking full responsibility for clinical care throughout the assessment and duration of labour, birth and immediate postpartum. The Midwifery student may provide care in the capacity of either primary or second midwife.
7. Postpartum Visits:
    - a) Midwifery students enrolled in *Clerkship 1* may attend up to two routine postpartum visits per client under *indirect supervision*, providing that the visits are not within the first three days and is not the final discharge visit. These students may attend additional (non-routine and not clinically indicated) prenatal and postpartum visits under *indirect supervision* at the discretion of the supervising midwife. Midwives are accountable for the care their students provide and must be fully informed of any assessments, concerns, recommendations and follow-up plans provided to the client prior to the student midwife concluding the visit.
    - b) Midwifery students enrolled in *Clerkship 2* may attend up to three routine postpartum visits per client under *indirect supervision*, providing that the visits do not include the first visit after the birth or the final discharge visit. These students may attend additional (non-routine and not clinically indicated) prenatal and postpartum visits under *indirect supervision* at the discretion of the supervising midwife. Midwives are accountable for the care their students provide and must be fully informed of any assessments, concerns, recommendations and follow-up plans provided to the client prior to the student midwife concluding the visit.

8. At the discretion of the supervising midwife and with the client consent, Clerkship 1 or 2 students may respond to client calls and/or pages. All student-client communications must be immediately recorded and reported to the supervising midwife to confirm appropriate student response.
9. Student registration will be terminated:
  - a. Upon graduation;
  - b. Upon a leave of absence or dismissal from the educational program;
  - c. If the student is no longer enrolled in an approved midwifery program.
10. Students may not receive payment for any activity which is required for course credit.
11. The fee is set by the College and is posted on the CMA web site.
12. The Midwifery Student membership year is from September 1 to August 31 of the following year.
13. This policy will come into effect 1<sup>ST</sup> January 2014.

Approved by Council: July 19, 2013

Revised: September 30, 2014

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Diane Rach RM, President

College of Midwives of Alberta

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<sup>i /ii</sup> A student in Clerkship 1 (first four months) is in the final year of her midwifery education program. She has successfully completed certification on Emergency Skills and her program has assessed her to be competent to provide primary care under direct supervision.

<sup>iii</sup> A student in Clerkship 2 (final four months) is in the final year of her midwifery education program. She has successfully completed certification on Emergency Skills and her program has assessed her to be competent to provide primary care under indirect supervision.